

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
Akihiko HIRATSUKA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3753  
Serial No. 10/553,959 ) Examiner: John C. Fox  
Filed: October 19, 2005 ) Confirmation No. 9879  
For: HEATER UNIT FOR INSTALLATION ON ) Date: November 9, 2009  
VALVE

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DO NOT ENTER: /J.F./

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is responsive to the Office Action dated August 12, 2009 in the above application. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims**

The claims are amended as shown on the following pages under the heading "LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS". The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application including any current amendments. This list of claims is intended to supersede all prior listing(s) of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.